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THE DANTE PRIZE.

IN MEMORIAM CHARLES STERRETT LATHAM.

THE prize offered for 1889–90 was awarded to Mr. C. S. LATHAM, of the class of 1884, A. B. Harv. 1888, for a translation of the Letters of Dante with a historical and critical comment. Mr. Latham died on July 21, 1890. He did not live to learn the award of the prize.

In accordance with the desire of his mother, the prize adjudged to him of one hundred dollars is now offered again to be competed for. The competition is open not only to the students in any department of Harvard University, and to Harvard graduates of not more than three years' standing, but also to students and graduates, of similar standing, of any college or university in the United States.

The annual prize of one hundred dollars offered by a member of the Dante Society for the best essay by a student in any department of Harvard University, or by a graduate of not more than three years' standing, on a subject connected with the Life or Works of Dante, is withdrawn for the present, but the offer will be renewed after the award of the Latham Prize.

For the year 1899–1900 the subjects proposed were as follows:

1. *A Review of Kraus's "Dante" (1897), Paget Toynbee's "Dante Dictionary" (1898), and Scartazzini's "Enciclopedia Dantesca" (1896–98).*

2. *The credibility of Boccaccio's "Vita di Dante," and of what he tells concerning Dante in his "Commento."*

3. *The verse endings in the Divina Commedia in which Dante has made "li vocaboli dire nelle sue rime altro che quello ch'erano appo gli altri dicitori usati di sprimere"* (Ottimo Commento, *Inf.* x, 85).

For the years 1901–02 and 1902–03 the same subjects are proposed, with the addition of (1) *A translation of the Quaestio de Aqua et Terra, and a discussion of its authenticity;* (2) *A collection of all the passages in the prose works of Dante directly illustrative of the Divina Commedia, arranged in order as a comment upon it;* (3) *A critical comment of the De Vulgari Eloquio.*

Essays must be deposited with the Dean of Harvard College, Cambridge, Mass., on or before the *first day of May.*

Essayists are at liberty to write on any one of the subjects which have been proposed in the years during which the Dante Prize has been offered.

On the title-page must be written an assumed name and a statement of the writer's standing, *i.e.*, whether he is a graduate or an undergraduate (and of what college or university); if he is an undergraduate, to what class he belongs, and to what department of the college or university. Under cover with the essay must be sent a sealed letter, containing the true name and address of the writer, and superscribed with his assumed name.

The essays must be written upon letter paper, of good quality, of the quarto size, with a margin of not less than one inch at the top, at the bottom, and on each side, so that they may be bound up without injury to the writing. The sheets on which the essay is written must be securely stitched together.

The judges of the essays are a committee of the Dante Society.

In case the judges decide that no essay submitted to them deserves the full prize, they are at liberty to award one or two prizes of fifty dollars, or to award no prize.

The Dante Society has the privilege of retaining and depositing in the Dante Collection of the Harvard College Library any or all essays offered in competition for the Dante Prize, whether successful or not.

Since its establishment, the Dante Prize (in full or in part) has been awarded to the following:

HEINRICH CONRAD BIERWIRTH . . . . 1887.

For an essay upon the subject: *Dante's Obligations to the Schoolmen, especially to Thomas Aquinas.*

GEORGE RICE CARPENTER . . . . 1888.

For an essay upon the subject: *The Interpretation and Reconciliation of the Different Accounts of his Experiences after the Death of Beatrice, given by Dante in the Vita Nuova and the Convito.*

CHARLES STERRETT LATHAM . . . . 1890.

For an essay upon the subject: *A Translation into English of Dante's Letters, with Explanatory and Historical Comments.*

LUCY ALLEN PATON . . . . 1891.

For an essay upon the subject: *The Personal Character of Dante, as Revealed in his Writings.*

KENNETH MCKENZIE . . . . 1894.

For an essay upon the subject: *The Rise of the Dolce Stil Nuovo.*

JEREMIAH DENIS MATTHIAS FORD . . . . 1895.

For an essay upon the subject: *Dante's Influence upon Spanish Literature during the Fifteenth and Sixteenth Centuries.*

ANNETTE FISKE . . . . 1897.

For an essay upon the subject: *Dante's Obligations to Old French and Provençal Lyric Poetry.*

ARTHUR NEWTON PEASLEE . . . . 1900.

For an essay entitled: *A Metrical Rhyming Translation of the Three Canzoni of the Convito.*

HENRY LATIMER SEAVER . . . . 1901.

For an essay entitled: *A Translation of the Canzoni in the Convito.*